

December 3, 1963

Mr. J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

Sir:

The following is a report on my part in the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald on Friday, November 22, 1963.

At 1:40 pm on November 22, 1963, Captain G. M. Doughty and Sgt. W. D. Barnes received a call to Tenth and Patton Streets regarding the shooting of Officer J. D. Tippit.

As they were preparing to leave the City Hall, I asked Captain Doughty if I could go with them and I was told that I could. We proceeded to the location and after we had been there about five (5) minutes a call came out that the shooting suspect was in the Texas Theater.

Captain Talbert was answering this call and he was alone, so I asked if I might go with him. As we proceeded to the Texas Theater the Dispatcher asked that the rear of the theater be covered. Captain Talbert let me out in the front and told me that he would cover the rear.

As I entered the theater, I was told by Det. John Toney that the suspect was in the balcony. I went to the balcony and searched the men and women's restrooms on my way up there. A patrolman was with me, but I did not know his name.

As I went into the balcony I asked the projectionist to turn on the house lights. When the lights were turned on I noticed several people up there. By this time there were several other patrolmen in the balcony, one was C. F. Bentley, Jr., whom I told to search all of the people in the balcony and get their names.

After this, I went back to the lower floor. Just as I entered the lower floor I saw Patrolman McDonald fighting with this suspect. I saw this suspect pull a pistol from his shirt, so I went to Patrolman McDonald's aid immediately.

77

Paul L. Bentley-page 2

I grabbed the suspect by the neck and attempted to get his right arm.

By this time other officers came to our assistance.

We subdued the suspect and placed handcuffs on him. I took hold of his belt behind his back, Sgt. Jerry Hill was on one side of him, Det. Bob Carroll was on the other side, and Patrolman C. E. Walker took hold of his belt in front. Det. Lyons also helped us get him to the car parked in front of the theater.

I got in the back seat and the suspect was put in next to me, and Patrolman Walker got in on his right. Det. Carroll, Sgt. Hill, and Det. Lyons were in the front seat, as we proceeded to the City Hall.

On the way to the City Hall I removed the suspect's wallet and obtained his name. He made several remarks enroute to the City Hall about police brutality and denied shooting anybody.

Sgt. Jerry Hill had the S&W 38 cal. pistol with six (6) shells in his possession on the way to the City Hall. This pistol was initialed by me and turned over to Lt. Baker and Captain Fritz by Sgt. Hill.

I turned his identification over to Lt. Baker. I then went to Captain Westbrook's Office to make a report of this arrest.

I then was told by Inspector Kockos to go to Baylor Hospital to receive treatment for the injured foot I received in making the arrest.

My foot was X-rayed at Baylor Hospital and I was told that I had pulled several ligaments in both sides of my right foot.

A cast was placed on my foot and leg and I was given a pair of crutches to use. I was told to report to Dr. Boswell on Tuesday, November 26, 1963 at 4:00 pm.

After an examination by Dr. Boswell, I was told that the cast would have to remain on the foot and leg until about December 20, 1963.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul L. Bentley
Detective of Police
Identification Bureau

Copied: NR-12-5-63